

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00177 081116Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 SSO-00 /019 W
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O R 081058Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3198
INFO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0177

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, GY, NS
SUBJ: PUERTO RICO TRADE MISSION

REF : (A) STATE 44782, (B) PARAMARIBO 0003

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES PUERTO RICO TRADE MISSION TO SURINAM DURING APRIL 16-23 TIME FRAME WOULD BE ILL-ADVISED AND RECOMMENDS ORGANIZERS BE ADVISED TO RESCHEDULE PARAMARIBO VISIT LATER IN YEAR.

2. REF B IN EARLY JANUARY QUERIED USDOC REGARDING PLANS FOR PUERTO RICO TRADE MISSION TO SURINAM. IN ABSENCE OF RESPONSE OR ANY INDICATION OF PUERTO RICAN PLANS, EMBASSY ADVISED FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE REP PETER GENERO THAT APRIL 28-MAY 1 WOULD BE SATISFACTORY DATES FOR PARAMARIBO STOP BY FLORIDA-ANTILLES FLYING TRADE MISSION. WORD RECEIVED FROM GENERO SINCE THEN INDICATES PLANNING IS FAR ADVANCED AND USDOC HAS ALREADY GIVEN TENTATIVE APPROVAL TO IOGA DESIGNATION OF MISSION. RESERVATIONS FOR HOTEL AND MEETING FACILITIES HAVE BEEN MADE AND GENERO, WHO VISITED PARAMARIBO IN EARLY JANUARY TO MAKE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF MISSION'S PROSPECTS, PLANS RETURN VISIT FOR FINAL ARRANGEMENT MARCH 30-31.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PUERTO RICO MISSION ONLY ONE WEEK
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BEFORE FLORIDA MISSION WOULD SERIOUSLY IMPAIR EFFECTIVENESS OF BOTH MISSIONS. SINCE BOTH MISSIONS WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH BASICALLY SAME LOCAL INDIVIDUALS, WHO OFTEN ACT AS IMPORTERS OF WIDE VARIETY OF PRODUCTS, VISITS BY TWO MISSIONS IN SUCH A SHORT SPAN OF TIME WOULD, IN OUR JUDGMENT, OVERLOAD THE CIRCUIT. SCHEDULING OF PUERTO RICO VISIT AT SUGGESTED TIME WOULD ALSO SEEM TO BE PARTICULARLY UNFAIR TO FLORIDA MISSION

ON WHICH CONSIDERABLE EFFORT HAS ALREADY BEEN EXPENDED.

4. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, WELCOM PUERTO RICO MISSION AT A
MUTUALLY AGREED UPON TIME LATER THIS YEAR, AT LEAST A MONTH
AFTER FLORIDA MISSION. SHOULD ADVANCE OFFICER STILL WISH TO
MAKE TRIP SCHEDULED MARCH 19-26, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DIS-
CUSS ALTERNATE DATES AT THAT TIME.

5. ADVISE.
ZURHELLEN

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NNN

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